



**RAMSBOTTOM  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**



**ANNUAL REPORTS**

*of*

*Medical Officer of Health*

*and*

*Chief Sanitary Inspector*

**1938**



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Ramsbottom Urban District Council.



# ANNUAL REPORTS

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RAMSBOTTOM :  
H. Scholes & Son, Printers, Union Street.



# Ramsbottom Urban District Council.

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CHAIRMAN :  
COUNCILLOR W. HOLDEN, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN :  
\*\*COUNCILLOR A. GASKELL.

COUNCILLORS \*J. COLLIER.  
\*M. CRAWSHAW.  
G. FOGG, J.P.  
J. HAMER, J.P.  
\*G. HOLT.  
C. LAMB.  
J. LONGWORTH.  
(Deceased September, 1938).  
T. C. SUTCLIFFE.  
(From November, 1938).  
\*R. SUTHERS.  
\*H. TAYLOR.  
\*J. TAYLOR, J.P.  
R. T. TURNBULL, J.P.  
R. WHITTAKER.  
\*REV. L. A. WILSON.

\*† Chairman of the Public Health Committee.

\* Members of the Public Health Committee.



LIST OF ACTS AND SECTIONS THEREOF  
ADOPTED BY THE  
RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

I.	Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.	1st April, 1896
II.	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.	do.
III.	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907:	
	Part II. (Sections 15—22, 28—33)	21st Oct., 1909
	Part IV. (Sections 53 and 54)	do.
	Part VI. (Sections 76 and 77)	do.
	Part VII. (Sections 79, 80, 81 and 86)	1st May, 1910
	Part VIII. (Sections 87—90)	do.
	Part IX.	do.
	Part X. (Section 95)	21st Oct., 1909
IV.	Public Health Act, 1925:	
	Part II	1st March, 1927
V.	Museum and Gymnasium Act, 1891.	1st Nov., 1930
VI.	Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899—1923.	13th Oct., 1932

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL BYELAWS  
ARE NOW IN FORCE.

I.	New Streets and Buildings	18th March, 1924
II.	Erection of Advertising Hoardings and Exhibition of Advertisements	24th Oct., 1930
III.	Emission of Smoke	4th May, 1931
IV.	Pleasure Grounds	6th Aug., 1931
V.	Slaughter-houses	18th Sept., 1935
VI.	Common Lodging Houses	18th Sept., 1935
VII.	Offensive Trades	5th Dec., 1935
VIII.	Nuisances	5th Dec., 1935





To the Ramsbottom Urban District Council.

# The Annual Report

of the

## Medical Officer of Health

1938.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN.

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report on public health affairs for 1938. Its chief value resides in the statistical records represented by the tables. Statistics are dry reading at the best, and one soon tires pouring over them, but when taken in comparison with similar statistics of former years one does begin to keep awake and even to feel interested. I trust, therefore, in this manner that your attention and interest may be provoked, and that you may find some pleasure and more profit by their perusal on this occasion.

You will observe that the death-rate still exceeds the birth-rate, but not to a very large extent, and you will be gratified to learn that our infant mortality rate is the lowest on record, i.e., 30 per 1000 born. Only five babies died during the year, and three of these being due to congenital defects may be regarded as unavoidable. This indeed is a tribute to all those having to do with the preservation of infant life, and not least to the young mothers themselves, who, profiting by the knowledge available to them, are showing great intelligence in the feeding and hygienic care of their babies. Further, it may be added in this connection that the influence of improved housing conditions is by no means negligible.

## STATISTICS AND LOCAL CONDITIONS.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	9,564
Population (Census 1931)		..	...	...	...	15,530
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population 1938						14,940
Number of inhabited houses—(a) Census 1931				...		4,390
Number of inhabited houses—(b) end of 1938, according to rate books		...	...	...		5,028
Rateable Value	...	...	...	..	...	£77,835
Sum represented by a penny rate	...		...	...	...	£301

The area is an industrial one, in which a large proportion of female labour is engaged. The chief industries are: Cotton and Woollen Spinning and Weaving, and a number issuing out of these such as Bleaching, Dyeing and Printing. In addition to these are Engineering, Paper Making, Soap Making, Quarrying (Millstone Grit), a Chemical works, and Farming. It is assumed that such varied industrial pursuits have had the effect of limiting the percentage of unemployed in the district to a greater extent than would have been the case had there been fewer.

## Extent of unemployment:—

1938.	Wholly unemployed	321.	Temporary unemployed	662.
1937.	„	314.	„	480.

Such industrial diseases as occur, and these are few, are due to dust and liquids which in the processes of manufacture give rise to cases of bronchial trouble and to dermatitis.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

				Total	M.	F.	
Live births	{	Legitimate		161	95	66	Birth-rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population, 11.0
		Illegitimate		4	1	3	
		Total	...	165	96	69	
Stillbirths		...	...	11	6	5	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 62.
Deaths	...	...	...	174	96	78	Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population *11.6

\*1938 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor 1.02)=11.8 per 1000

## Deaths from puerperal causes—

				Deaths	Death-rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	1	5.68
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	1	5.68
Total...	...	...	...	2	11.36

## Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	...	30
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	18
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	500

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	30
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	2
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0

	Per 1000 of Estimated Population.				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1000 Live Births.
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate.	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Death-rate from Cancer.	Per 1000 Live Births.	Per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births.	

Population—  
Estimate, mid-1938,  
14,940.

Mean of 5 years, 1933—1937	...	11.8	12.6	0.57	1.56	4.43	4.24	60
Year 1937	...	11.8	12.3	0.33	1.46	5.61	5.34	56
Year 1938	...	11.0	*11.6	0.33	2.00	12.12	11.36	30
Increase or decrease in 1938 on—								
5 years' average, 1933—37	...	—0.8	—1.0	—0.24	+0.44	+7.69	+7.12	—30
Previous year	...	—0.8	—0.7	nil	+0.54	+6.51	+6.02	—26

\* 1938 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor, 1.02) = 11.8 per 1000.

## AGE PERIODS OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year ... ..	5	0	5
Between 1 and 5 years...	2	1	3
Between 5 and 15 years	0	1	1
Between 15 and 25 years	1	1	2
Between 25 and 45 years	11	10	21
Between 45 and 65 years	33	23	56
65 years and over ... ..	44	42	86
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	96	78	174

TOTAL DEATHS COMPARED WITH  
THOSE FOR 1937.

	1938	1937
All causes ... ..	174	185
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	0	0
Measles ... ..	2	0
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0
Diphtheria ... ..	0	0
Influenza ... ..	2	10
Encephalitis Lethargica... ..	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	0	0
Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	5	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	0	2
Syphilis ... ..	0	1
G. P. I., Tabes, etc. ... ..	3	0
Cancer ... ..	30	22
Diabetes ... ..	4	4
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ... ..	11	12

				1938	1937
Heart Diseases	...	...	...	46	38
Aneurysm	...	...	...	0	0
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	15	14
Bronchitis	...	...	...	6	8
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	6	12
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	4	1
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	1	0
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	0	0
Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	2	0
Other Liver Diseases	...	...	...	1	0
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	0	3
Nephritis	...	...	...	13	8
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	1	0
Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	1	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc....				3	6
Senility	...	...	...	1	2
Suicide	...	...	...	0	2
Other violent deaths	...	...	...	7	9
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	9	21
Smallpox	...	...	...	0	0
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	0	0
Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	0	0
Ill defined causes	...	...	...	0	3
Diarrhœa (over 2 years)	...	...	...	0	0

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF  
MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND  
CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1938.

ENGLAND AND WALES, LONDON, 126 GREAT TOWNS,  
AND 148 SMALLER TOWNS.

(Provisional figures based on weekly and quarterly returns).

				England and Wales.	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administra- tive County.	Ramsgate.
				Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Births:—								
Live	...	...	...	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4	11.0
Still	...	...	...	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48	0.33
Deaths:—								
All causes	...	...	...	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers...				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	...	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	...	...	...	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.13
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.00
Influenza	...	...	...	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.13
Notifications:—								
Smallpox	...	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05	1.40
Diphtheria	...	...	...	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90	1.87
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.00
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46	0.33
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98	1.61

Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 yr. of age...	53	57	51	57	30
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ...	...	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	...	0.89	Not available		6.06
Others ...	...	2.19			6.06
Total ...	...	3.08			12.12

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (*i.e.*, Live and Still).

Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	...	0.86	Not available		5.68
Others ...	...	2.11			5.68
Total ...	...	2.97			11.36

Notifications :—

Puerperal Fever	}	14.42	18.08	12.51	{	3.53	5.68
Puerperal Pyrexia						15.46	



NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified																				Deaths in Hospital
	Total Cases, all ages	YEARS																			
		Under 1	1 2	2 3	3 4	4 5	5 6	6 7	7 8	8 9	9 10	10 11	11 12	12 13	13 14	14 15	15 16	16 17	17 18	18 19	
Scarlet Fever ..	21	0	0	0	0	2	10	6	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria ..	28	0	1	2	1	2	6	8	1	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia ..	24	3	3	0	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	84	7	4	2	2	5	19	16	3	11	1	12	2	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES. MONTHLY INCIDENCE. 1938.

16

Disease.	Total.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever ...	21 ...	0	2	1	4	4	1	7	1	0	0	1	0
Diphtheria ...	28 ...	2	1	0	3	0	4	2	2	0	5	8	1
Pneumonia ...	24 ...	6	3	1	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	2	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4 ...	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas ...	5 ...	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1 ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Anterior Polyomyelitis ...	1 ...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	11 ...	1	3	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	1
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	4 ...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Totals ...	99 ...	10	11	3	10	6	8	10	9	3	5	14	10

## TUBERCULOSIS.

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

Age Periods.		NEW CASES.					DEATHS.			
		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
Years.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
1—5	...	0	0	0	1	...	0	0	0	0
5—10	...	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
10—15	...	0	0	0	1	...	0	0	0	0
15—20	...	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
20—25	...	1	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
25—35	...	2	1	0	1	...	1	0	0	0
35—45	...	2	0	0	0	...	0	1	0	0
45—55	...	3	0	1	0	...	2	0	0	0
55—65	...	2	0	0	0	...	1	0	0	0
65 and upwards..		0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
Totals	...	10	1	1	3	...	4	1	0	0

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Ninety-nine notifications, including 15 of tuberculosis, were received. This is eleven less than for the preceding year. Cases of diphtheria and scarlet fever continued to be mild, and no deaths from these diseases took place. Six deaths from notifiable diseases included five from tuberculosis and one from puerperal pyrexia.

Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied from the Public Health Office, and 38,000 units were supplied during the year.

No request for Schick or Dick vaccines to immunize children against diphtheria and scarlet fever, was received at the office.

The following table gives the cases of notifiable diseases occurring in the Urban District during the last six years, and provides some useful comparative information at a glance.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS.

			1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Scarlet Fever	...	...	21	24	34	38	12	39
Diphtheria	...	...	28	31	46	7	7	13
Erysipelas	...	...	5	3	5	6	4	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	4	2	0	1	1	3
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.	...	...	1	0	2	3	0	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	24	40	37	38	27	7
Puerperal Fever	...	...	0	0	1	0	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1	0	1	2	2	3
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	...	...	11	8	4	6	15	16
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	...	...	4	2	5	5	6	10

Pathological and Bacteriological specimens are submitted for investigation to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, and the nature and number of specimens submitted during the year were as follows:—Diphtheria 33, Enteric Fever 3, Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli 29, Diphtheria for virulence 1, Swab for Vincent's Angina 1.

### DISINFECTION.

Houses are disinfected on removal of the case to Hospital, and on recovery when the case is kept at home. This procedure applies to tuberculosis, but not to measles. The methods generally adopted are to spray the rooms with a strong solution of formalin and/or to set candles alight whereby formaldehyde tablets in containers are

volatilized within the rooms. Either of these procedures creates a strong concentration of formaldehyde gas, which acts as a powerful disinfectant upon the room and its contents. Bedding and clothing are dealt with in this manner. Steam disinfection can also be carried out at the depot in Stubbins Lane. During the year 53 houses were disinfected by spray and candles.

### DISINFESTATION.

Special measures against rat infestation are taken annually during rat week.

As regards bug infestation, since all discovered bug infested houses have for this and other defects been placed in clearance areas, it was not thought necessary to deal with such houses, but their contents—furniture, bedding, clothing, etc.—before being transferred to new houses on the Council's estate, have undergone a process of disinfestation with "Cimex," a powerful insecticide, and was done by contract. The number of houses found to be infested, and treated in the manner described, was 15, none of which were Council houses.

### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Smallpox.	Ainsworth Hospital	...	...	...	...	28 beds
Tuberculosis (Respiratory).	Aitken Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	80 beds
For other infectious diseases.	Florence Nightingale	...	...	...	...	96 beds

These Hospitals are under the control of the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board, on which the Urban District has two representatives.

#### NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Treatment of these diseases is provided in the Hospitals of Ramsbottom, Bury and Manchester, and the local Medical Services Association makes itself responsible for the maintenance of its contributors of a penny a week while they are in Hospital.

The Ramsbottom Cottage Hospital contains nine beds and eight cots. In a recent survey for A. R. P. purposes, it was estimated that accommodation might be made for eight additional adult beds in case of an emergency. It is provided with an excellent modern operating theatre, and altogether provides occasion for a lot of good work, surgical and medical. Attached to it there is also a popular out-patient department. Children from the local Schools are referred by the County Educational Authority to this Hospital for treatment of enlarged and diseased tonsils and adenoids.

#### DISTRICT NURSING.

Two District Nurses are employed in the Urban area—one by the Ramsbottom Hospital and District Nursing Association, and one by a voluntary agency at Summerseat. The latter nurse's duties are confined to Summerseat, and include the practice of midwifery. Their services are restricted to non-infectious diseases, but include pneumonia and complicated cases of measles and whooping cough. The Local Authority is not responsible for any district nursing arrangements.

The School Clinic, controlled by the County Education Authority's Medical Officer and Nurses, is situated in Bridge Street, over Martins Bank.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary at 41 Darbyshire street, Radcliffe, is directed by the County Council's Tuberculosis Medical Officers, and the times of session are as follows :—every Wednesday at 2-30 p.m., and every third Wednesday of the month at 6-30 p.m. Artificial light treatment is available at this dispensary, but for radiological examinations patients are referred to the Chief Dispensary at Ashton-under-Lyne, which is the centre for the County Area No. 3, and embraces the Urban District.

The Venereal Diseases Dispensary, also under County direction, is situated in The Wylde, Bury. The times of session are: for males, Tuesday and Thursday 8-30 to 9-30 p.m., Friday 6-30 to 8-30 p.m.,

Saturday 10-0 a.m. to 1-0 p.m.; for females, Tuesday 6-30 to 8-30 p.m., Thursday 2-0 to 5-0 p.m., Friday 8-30 to 9-30 p.m.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For infectious cases, the Joint Hospital Board's Motor Ambulances. For non-infectious cases, the Urban District Council's Motor Ambulances.

## MATERNITY.

The County Council, being the local supervising authority within the meaning of the principal Act (midwives), have determined two midwives to serve the needs of the district. The district nurse at Summerseat, who is in the employ of a local private trust, also practices midwifery within the Summerseat area. This number of midwives appears to be amply sufficient for the needs of the district.

Maternity Wards exist at Bury Infirmary and at the County Hospital, Jericho, and provides accommodation for ante-natal supervision and confinement to a large proportion of our expectant mothers. An analysis of these transferred births is given in Miss Snell's statement. Other expectant mothers prefer to make their own arrangements as regards ante-natal supervision and confinement with the midwives and the family doctor.

The Local Authority is prepared, in approved cases, to grant financial assistance towards the cost of consultant's fees when their services are required by doctors attending difficult or complicated cases of confinement, and will accept financial responsibility for any such case necessitating institutional treatment in St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

Cases of puerperal sepsis, now notifiable under the term "puerperal pyrexia," are as a general rule transferred to the Fever Hospital at Bury.

There is no institutional provision within the district for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children.

#### CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The Centre in Stubbins Lane is under the direction of Miss Snell, who, with the able and voluntary assistance of a number of ladies to whom all praise and thanks are due, continues to be as popular as ever. The average attendance per session for 1938 was 38, the same as for the year preceding. Miss Snell states that 64 % of the babies born to the district came to the Welfare Centres. The Summerseat Welfare Centre maintains its popularity also, and the sessional attendance was 21, similar to that for the year preceding. This Centre, although a voluntary one and managed by its own officers, receives a grant from you equal to 50 % of its expenditure.



# Health Visitor's Statement.

1938.

Under the Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915, 102 live births and one still birth were notified. Of these 63 were males and 40 were females. Ninety-nine were notified by midwives and four by doctors. In addition, 74 live births and nine still births (45 males and 38 females) were transferred from other districts, *i.e.*, births taking place outside the district to mothers belonging to the district—29 of these occurred within the maternity ward of the Infirmary, Bury, 36 in the maternity department of the Hospital, Jericho, Bury, five in the Moorlands Hospital, Rawtenstall, and 13 in Private Nursing Homes.

Total number of live births 176, still births 10.

## WARD DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED BIRTHS.

					Males	Females	Total
Central Ward...	...	...	...	...	14	5	19
North Ward ...	...	...	...	...	8	10	18
South Ward ...	...	...	...	...	4	7	11
East Ward ...	...	...	...	...	8	4	12
West Ward ...	...	...	...	...	26	13	39
Walmersley-cum-Shuttleworth Ward	...			...	3	1	4
					63	40	103

SUMMARY OF VISITS.

Primary birth enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	159
Revisits to children under one year	...	...	...	...	...	786
Visits to children between one and five years				...	...	924
Visits to expectant mothers	...	...	...	...	...	44
Visits to still births	...	...	...	...	...	8
Visits re infant deaths	...	...	...	...	...	4
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	18
Visits re milk applications	...	...	...	...	..	136
Visits re Children's Act	...	...	...	...	...	6
Visits to cases of whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	16
Visits to cases of measles	...	...	.	...	..	36
						2137

METHOD OF FEEDING AND ASSOCIATED  
MORTALITY OF INFANTS.

Breat fed	... 99	Mortality	... 1
Breast fed partially	... 24	„	... 0
Artificially fed	... 34	„	... 2
Not determined	... 2	„	... 2
	——		——
	159		5

## INFANT DEATHS.

Causes of Death.			Under one week	Under three months	Under nine months
Spncope Pulmonary Atelectasis	...	...	I	O	O
Convulsions, Pneumonia, Influenza	...	...	O	I	O
Broncho-Pneumonia, Measles	...	...	O	O	I
Congenital Malformation of heart	...	...	I	O	I
			—	—	—
			2	I	2

## CHILDREN'S ACT 1908. PART 1.

During the year 1938 the names of two children were added to the Register, making a total of three. All these children were removed and taken back to their respective parents.

There were no names on the Register at the end of the year.

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER  
1921.

In accordance with the Local Authority's Scheme for the supply of milk, etc. (free or at part cost) to necessitous, expectant and nursing mothers and young children, 9,333½ pints of fresh cows milk and 16 tins of dried milk were supplied free of cost, and 303½ pints of fresh milk were supplied at part cost. All the cases are under continuous supervision, and all children, unless under their own doctor, are required to attend the Welfare Centre.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

192 children, including 100 which attended for the first time, made 1,727 attendances at the Centre in Stubbins Lane. Of these, 984 were by children under one year, and 743 by children between one and five years. 45 sessions were held during the year, which gives an average attendance of 38 per session. This number per session is the same as the preceding year.

At the Summerseat Centre, 518 attendances were made at 24 sessions, giving an average attendance of 21 per session. This is also the same number per session as the preceding year. 64 % of the infants born to the district during 1938 attended the Welfare Centres.

A. L. SNELL,

HEALTH VISITOR.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

The main water supply within the district is by the Irwell Valley Water Board, on which the Local Authority has two representatives. The water is ample, of good quality, soft, and plumbo-solvent especially on hot water systems. The risk of lead poisoning by the careless use of water for culinary purposes from hot water systems when in a hurry is by no means negligible.

All the new houses are provided with hot water installations, and I trust that the people who now occupy them will consider these words of mine as a warning against taking risks that can be easily avoided. Chronic lead poisoning is an insidious disease, and may never show symptoms of its presence to the sufferer until his or her health is irretrievably lost. During the year two samples were submitted for Bacteriological and one for Chemical analysis. All three were found to be satisfactory. The number of houses supplied direct from the mains is 4,932.

About 550 houses scattered over our wide area are dependent upon private supplies from wells, springs and streams. Such supplies are liable to contamination by surface drainage from manured fields, and become insufficient during dry weather. During the year 17 samples of these waters were submitted for Bacteriological and two for Chemical analysis, and were found satisfactory.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

It is a combined system, taking both sewage and surface water. In addition, a considerable volume of trade waste and ground water enter the sewers. The outflow is on the sewage works at Summerseat, where it passes through settling tanks, then through sprinklers before being discharged into the river Irwell.

The outlying district of Walmersley-cum-Shuttleworth is without a regular system of drainage owing to its sparse and widely scattered population.

EXTENSIONS. New sewers were laid for the new housing estate in Peel Brow, comprising 224 houses, and for the houses 26 to 34, Market Street, Edenfield.

For a detailed account of collection and disposal of other forms of refuse, see Mr. Barlow's report.

House drains are submitted to the smoke and water tests; sewers are flushed.

No complaint of pollution of rivers or streams was received at the Public Health Office during the year.

### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The local concession for the emission of black smoke is six minutes in the hour. No action for contravention was taken.

### SCHOOLS.

With the exception of Buckhurst School, all the other Schools in the district remain satisfactory as regards their sanitary conditions and water supplies.

### FOOD.

Mr. Barlow's report on food inspection gives in detail a list of foodstuffs which were condemned by him and surrendered for destruction. No illness due to consumption of unsound food was reported, and no cases for prosecution arose from exposure for sale of unsound food.

### MILK SUPPLY.

The administration of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act 1915, the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act 1922, and the Milk and Dairies Order 1926: these Acts and Order have to do with the conditions under which milk is produced for sale, and Mr.

Barlow visits the premises as often as his other duties permit. He made 59 inspections during the year, and found conditions generally to be satisfactory.

As regards the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938, the following licences were issued during 1938:—one for distribution of tuberculin tested milk, and twelve for distribution of pasteurised milk. There is no pasteurising plant within the district.

The number of producers and milk purveyors within the Urban area is:—dairy farms 68, other cow-keepers 12, purveyors of milk not being producers 17. Approximate number of cows 990. Thirty-five samples of milk were submitted to a test for tubercle bacilli, and two were found to be positive.

## HOUSING STATISTICS AND CONDITIONS.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b))...	138
(i)	By the Local Authority ... ..	78
(ii)	By other Local Authorities ... ..	—
(iii)	By other bodies or persons ... ..	60
(b)	With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—	
(i)	By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above) ... ..	78
(ii)	By other bodies or persons (included under (a) (iii) above) ... ..	—

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	288
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	807

(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ... ..	135
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	135
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	127
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	8
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	7
3.	Action under statutory powers during the year :—	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners ... ..	—
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	—

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—				
(a)	By owners	...	...	—
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	—
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—				
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	..	...	2
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	—
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—				
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	4
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	—
4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :—				
(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	51
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	52
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	340
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	—
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	6
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	35



The general standard of housing is good. The majority of houses in the area are stone built (new houses mostly brick built), and comprise two rooms up and two down, with the usual conveniences. Rents are from 8/6 to 10/6 weekly. New houses are provided with a bathroom and internal sanitary conveniences, which is not the case in the older houses.

Old and unsuitable property is a diminishing quantity (approximately between 300 and 400 houses), and this will require to be dealt with either by demolition or reconstruction before the Urban District is slum free. Amongst this class are over 200 back-to-back houses, relics of industrial servitude.

The evidence of shortage of houses is not clear. One hundred and twenty-five applicants for houses are upon the Council's list, but it is quite well known that a number of these applicants are already in occupation of quite good houses, which may be too large or too small for the occupants.

When the Peel Brow housing scheme is complete, 224 new houses on this site alone will have been added to the total.

A certain amount of overcrowding exists (see table), but no new cases were reported during the year, and six cases were relieved. Overcrowding, as far as we are able to find out, is entirely economic, and due to inability to pay the rent of a separate dwelling.

The number of houses having no adequate internal water supply is approximately 144, and the number of houses having no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation is approximately 1,252.

As regards Slum Clearance Areas, representations of eleven areas comprising 101 houses were made to the Local Authority, and one site comprising six houses was cleared.

Permit me, in concluding my report, to thank you, and especially the Public Health Committee, for your continued interest and enthusiasm in all matters affecting the public health of the Urban Area; also my fellow officials for their material help in the performance of my duties.

I am, gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

HUGH LAWRIE, M.B.C.M., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health

To the Ramsbottom Urban District Council.

# The Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. 1938.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1938.

Before referring to local items I should like to comment on the flow of new legislation which has been showered upon us of recent years.

During the past five years practically the whole of the Public Health law has been reconstructed, involving the repeal of a number of Acts the administration and procedure of which had become almost as familiar as the A.B.C. to the officials concerned.

The necessity for the replacement of ancient legislation by statute in keeping with modern requirements no one will deny. Has the time not arrived, however, when there should be some respite by the legislators in the spate of legislation, to allow the administrator an opportunity of familiarising himself with the new order of things.

In local affairs Housing has again been very prominent. The completion of the Heath Hill Housing Estate has enabled rehousing to be carried out from a number of Clearance Areas in the South and West Wards of the town. The Bank Lane Housing Estate was also well in progress by the end of the year.

Appreciation of the amenities and conveniences afforded by the new houses have been expressed by a large number of the tenants. This appreciation would be greater still if the rentals of the new houses were more closely related to the rentals of the houses they have left.

One item worthy of comment in the report is the great reduction in the amount of food found to be unfit for human food compared with the previous year. The total weight found to be unfit during the past year was 2,516 lbs., compared with 6,616 lbs. for 1937. This is all to the good, in that it shows a better class of animal is being slaughtered for food than previously.

Details of the activities of the department will be found in the following pages, but before passing on to them I desire to record my pleasure at the appointment of Mr. Frank Haworth as additional Sanitary Inspector to the Council during the year, following his success at the Royal Sanitary Institute Examination. His appointment will, I am sure, be fully justified.

#### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	288
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	36
Shops and Market Stalls	...	...	...	310
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	459
Dairy Farms	...	...	...	59
Dairies	...	...	...	8
Drain inspections	...	...	...	164
Factories	...	...	...	9
Bakehouses	...	...	...	9
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	2
Common Lodging House	...	...	...	2
School	...	...	...	1
Shops Act	...	...	...	71
Other premises	...	...	...	109
Property under observation	...	...	...	519

Houses disinfected	...	...	...	53
Smoke observations	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	34
Milk samples taken	...	...	...	89
Visits re water supplies	...	...	...	3
Owners seen	...	...	...	36
				<hr/>
				2263

### NUISANCES AND DEFECTS FOUND.

Houses unfit for human habitation	...	...	..	127
House walls damp	...	...	...	6
Defective plastering	...	...	...	6
Defective downspouts	...	...	...	2
Defective roofs	...	...	...	2
Defective ceilings	...	...	...	1
Defective pointing of walls	...	...	...	1
Insanitary stone sinks	...	...	...	1
Defective sash cords to windows	...	...	...	2
Defective eavesgutters	...	...	...	2
Houses with inadequate water supply	...	...	...	12
Houses without ashbins	...	...	...	4
Defective ashbins	...	...	...	16
Insanitary ashpits	...	...	...	7
Insanitary pail closets	...	...	...	6
Defective and choked drains	...	...	...	19
Defective waste water closets	...	...	...	4
Choked waste water closets	...	...	...	164
Black smoke emitted in such quantity as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	1
Absence of suitable dairies	...	...	...	2
Cowsheds insufficiently lighted and ventilated	...	...	...	5
Defective floors of cowsheds	...	...	...	11
Defective walls of cowsheds	...	...	...	10

Defective drainage of cowsheds ...	...	...	...	...	8
Cowsheds requiring limewashing	...	...	...	...	3
Defective manure steads	...	...	...	...	2
Shops without separate sanitary accommodation on the premises	...	...	...	...	16
Shops without separate sanitary accommodation for each sex	...	...	...	...	2
Shops without washing facilities on the premises	...	...	...	...	1
Shops without means of heating	...	...	...	...	2
Form "H" not exhibited in shops	...	...	...	...	2
Form "E" not exhibited in shops	...	...	...	...	1
Form "K" not exhibited in shops	...	...	...	...	1
Insufficient sanitary conveniences at factory	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary conveniences at factory in a dirty condition	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary conveniences at factory not emptied regularly	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous defects	...	...	...	...	8

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#### NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Unfit houses demolished	...	...	...	...	6
Back-to-back houses made through	...	...	...	...	12
Defective downspouts repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Defective roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	...	2
Defective plastering of walls repaired	...	...	...	...	4
New ceilings provided	...	...	...	...	2
New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	1
House provided with wholesome water supply	...	...	...	...	1
Houses provided with adequate water supply	...	...	...	...	12
Waste water closets done away with and fresh water closets provided	...	...	...	...	27
Insanitary privy midden done away with and fresh water closet provided	...	...	...	...	1

Insanitary pail closets done away with and fresh water closets provided	...	...	...	...	9
Additional fresh water closets provided	...	...	...	...	6
Defective and choked drains repaired	...	...	...	...	20
Defective tippler to waste water closet repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Choked tippler W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	...	164
Insanitary ashpits abolished and ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	3
New ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	28
Insanitary privy middens abolished	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouse limewashed	...	...	...	...	1
Cowshed provided with new floor	...	...	...	...	1
Walls of cowshed rendered with cement	...	...	...	...	1
Cowsheds limewashed	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous defects remedied	...	...	...	...	5
					<hr/>
					317

## HOUSING.

This sphere of activity has occupied a still greater portion of the time of your Health Department than ever before.

During the past year 807 inspections were made under the Housing Act.

Official representations were submitted in respect of eleven Clearance Areas involving 101 houses.

Two Ministry of Health Inquiries with respect to four Clearance Areas involving 59 houses were held. All these areas were subsequently confirmed in entirety with the exception of the exclusion of a workshop from one area.

In addition to houses included in Clearance Areas, 26 individually unfit houses, not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable expense, were represented, and action was also taken with regard to 10 individually unfit houses capable of repair at a reasonable expense.

Rehousing of the occupants from the Kay Street, Bolton Road West, Higher Summerseat, Willow Street and Irwell Street, Lilly Street, and Hall Street Clearance Areas took place, and the demolition of the houses in the Kay Street area was completed.

As a result of action taken in connection with individually unfit houses, 12 back-to-back houses were made through, and seven unfit houses rendered fit.

Disinfestation of the bedding and household effects was carried out in the Willow Street and Irwell Street area before removal of the tenants to their new houses. This work was carried out by contract. The method of disinfestation used was by "Cimex," in which the goods are collected at the old house in a furniture van on the morning of the day of removal, the gas is then applied, and the goods are delivered to the new house on the afternoon of the same day. Fifteen houses were dealt with in this manner, and no cases of reinfestation have been found.

No Council houses were found to be bug infested during the year.

#### OVERCROWDING.

The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of 1937 was 57. No new cases were discovered during the year, but six cases were relieved. The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of 1938 was therefore 51, in which were residing 340 persons.

The following table shows the progress of the housing programme up to the end of the year.

Area No.	Name of Area	No. of houses	No. of persons	Year represented	Year Inquiry held	Year re-housed	Year demolished
1.	Carr Street (No. 1)	... 43	140	1934	1934	1935	1936
2.	Silver St. & Square St.	... 13	36	1934	1935	1936	1937
3.	Peel Street (No. 1)	... 5	10	1935	1935	1936	1937
4.	Peel Street (No. 2)	... 8	17	1935	1935	1936	1937



5. Ramsbottom Lane	..	41	140	1935	1936	1936	1937
6. Whalley Road (No. 1)	...	6	19	1935	1936	—	—
7. Carr Fold	...	10	23	1935	1936	—	—
8. Carex Street	...	3	11	1935	1936	—	—
9. Bolton Road West	...	5	18	1936	*	1938	—
10. Higher Summerseat	...	5	15	1936	1937	1938	—
11. Kay St., Summerseat	...	6	15	1936	*	1938	1938
12. Willow St. & Irwell St, Summerseat	...	22	56	1936	*	1938	—
13. Lilly Street	...	4	10	1937	*	1938	—
14. Hall Street	...	6	17	1937	*	1938	—
15. Baiwood Lee	...	8	18	1937	*	—	—
16. Central Street (No. 1)	...	2	5	1937	*	—	—
17. Central Street (No. 2)	...	3	12	1937	1938	—	—
18. Central Street (No. 3)	...	2	4	1937	1938	—	—
19. Central Street (No. 4)	...	3	7	1937	*	—	—
20. Carr Street (No. 2)	...	4	6	1937	*	—	—
21. Ducie Street	...	3	8	1937	*	—	—
22. Square Street	...	6	14	1937	*	—	—
23. Stubbins Lane (No. 1)	...	12	30	1938	1938	—	—
24. Union St. & King St.	...	42	152	1938	1938	—	—
25. Eden Street	...	4	9	1938	—	—	—
26. Pin Fold	...	6	16	1938	—	—	—
27. Crowwoods Fold	...	6	17	1938	—	—	—
28. Gollinrod	...	10	28	1938	‡	—	—
29. Manchester Road (No. 1)...	4	14	1938	—	—	—	—
30. Manchester Road (No. 2)...	3	6	1938	—	—	—	—
31. Lodge St. & Thomas St....	6	24	1938	—	—	—	—
32. Nell Carrs	...	3	8	1938	—	—	—
33. Whalley Road (No. 2)	...	5	11	1938	—	—	—

\* No objections made, therefore no Inquiry held.

‡ Excluded from Order—Scheme accepted.

## FACTORIES.

The Factories Act 1937, which came into operation on the 1st July, 1938, contains many new provisions for the health of factory workers.

Additional duties which are entrusted to Health Authorities under this Act will necessitate a far greater amount of time being devoted to this subject than has been possible hitherto.

## FACTORIES AND OTHER PREMISES.

### 1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND OTHER PREMISES.

Premises	No. of Inspections	No. of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (with mechanical power) ...	15	—	—
Factories (without mechanical power)...	2	—	—
Other premises (other than outworkers premises) ...	3	3	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	20	3	—

### 2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES AND OTHER PREMISES.

Particulars.	—Number of Defects—			Number of defects in respect of which pros- ecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	referred to H. M. Inspect- or	
Want of cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :—				
Insufficient ...	1	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	2	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences ...	—	1	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	3	1	—	—

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLY.

In an effort to secure a wholesome food supply, frequent visits are paid to slaughterhouses, butchers and other food shops, and food-preparing premises.

So far as possible, all meat is examined after slaughter; difficulty occurs, however, when slaughtering is carried out simultaneously in different parts of the district.

### NUMBER OF SLAUGHTERHOUSES, ETC.

Slaughterhouses (registered)	...	3
Slaughterhouses (licensed)	...	7
Beef butchers	... ..	22
Pork butchers	... ..	3
Butchers stalls on market	... ..	1
Meat hawkers	... ..	2
Bakehouses	... ..	28

During the year 459 visits were paid to slaughterhouses, and 310 to shops and market stalls.

Generally speaking, the slaughterhouses were maintained in a fairly good condition, although some of them are very old buildings and leave much to be desired.

There is no evidence of any illness having been caused by the consumption of unwholesome food during the year, and no prosecutions for the exposure for sale of diseased or unwholesome food were necessary.

The total weight of food found to be unfit for human food and condemned was 2,562 lbs. This is considerably less than the previous year, and would point to a better quality of animal being killed.

The following tables show (1) the number of carcasses examined, (2) carcasses and organs found to be unfit for food, (3) weights of carcasses and organs found to be unfit for food, and (4) percentage of carcasses condemned.

### NUMBER OF CARCASSES EXAMINED AFTER SLAUGHTER.

Month		Bulls	Bullocks	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Pigs	Total
January	...	0	13	16	3	1	110	143
February	...	3	25	34	7	2	131	202
March	...	2	20	40	3	0	87	152
April and May	...	1	24	35	7	1	114	182
June	...	3	14	18	3	0	131	169
July	...	1	13	27	8	0	178	227
August and Sept.	...	3	29	22	10	1	307	372
October	...	0	33	12	14	3	171	233
November	...	4	34	13	10	0	129	190
December	...	0	45	15	13	3	197	273
		17	250	232	78	11	1555	2143

No record kept of the number of sheep and lambs examined.

# CARCASES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

## ALL DISEASES.

	Whole Carcases and Organs	Part Car- cases	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Mesen- teries	Plucks
Bovines	...	2	20	35	5 + 21 lbs.	7	
Pigs	... 2	1	82	9	4		19
Calves	... 1						

## TUBERCULOUS.

Bovines	...	2	20	34	2	7	
Pigs	... 1		82	9	3		14

## OTHER CAUSES.

### BOVINES.

Echinococcus Veterinorum				1			
Cirrhosis ..					1		
Cavernous Angioma ...					1		
Fatty Degen- eration ...					1		
Distomatosis ..					21 lbs.		

### PIGS.

Dropsy ... 1							
Injury ... 1							
Pneumonia ...							5
Cirrhosis ...					1		

### CALVES.

Joint ill ... 1							
-----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

# WEIGHTS OF CARCASSES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

## TOTAL WEIGHTS IN POUNDS.

### ALL DISEASES.

	Whole Carcasses and Organs	Part Car- cases	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Mesen- teries	Flucks	Total
Bovines		110	600	280	81	56		1127
Pigs	157	10	984	36	16		152	1355
Calves	80							80
Total	237	120	1584	316	97	56	152	2562

### TUBERCULOUS.

Bovines		110	600	272	24	56		1062
Pigs	92		984	36	12		112	1236
Total	92	110	1584	308	36	56	112	2298

### OTHER CAUSES.

Bovines				8	57			65
Pigs	65	10			4		40	119
Calves	80							80
Total	145	10		8	61		40	264

# CARCASES INSPECTED AND PERCENTAGE CONDEMNED.

		Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	...	345	232	11	*	1555
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis :—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	0	0	1	0	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	3	6	0	0	4
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis...		0.87 %	2.6 %	9 %	0	0.32 %
<i>Tuberculosis only :—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	0	0	0	0	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	5	40	0	0	82
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	1.45 %	17.24 %	0	0	5.34 %

\* No record kept

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The above Act, which amongst other things provides for the sampling of all articles of food and drugs with a view to their submission for analysis, is administered in this district by the County Police

I am indebted to Superintendent J. Watkinson for the following particulars of the samples purchased in Ramsbottom during 1938.

Milk	...	...	34
Canned Peas	...	...	1
Lancashire Cheese	...	...	1
Cocoa	...	...	2
Lard	...	...	3
Rice	...	...	3
Boiled Sweets	...	...	2

Gravy Browning	...	1
Pepper	...	2
Jelly	...	3
Sugar	...	2
Coffee	...	3
Margarine	...	1
Tea	...	3
Butter	...	2
Barley	...	2
Glycerine	...	1
Jam	...	1
Blanc Mange Powder	...	1
Epsom Salts	...	1

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Upon analysis all the samples were found to be genuine.

### MILK AND DAIRIES ACT.

Fifty-nine inspections of dairy farms were made during the year.

One farm was added to the accredited roll, making the number of accredited producers in the district four. On these farms the highest standard of cleanliness must be maintained in order that the samples of milk which are obtained from them quarterly comply with the prescribed standard. In addition, the milk must be free from tubercle bacilli.

I regret the lack of interest amongst farmers generally in the Accredited Milk Scheme. To my mind, the scheme opens the way to a pure and wholesome milk supply, and at the same time is a benefit to the farmer.

The number of dairy farms, etc., in the district is :—

Dairy Farms	...	...	68
Dairymen or Milk Purveyors	...	...	17
Cowkeepers	...	...	80
Accredited Producers	...	...	4
Dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	1
Premises licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	...	...	12



## EXAMINATION OF MILK SUPPLIES.

In addition to the samples of milk from the accredited farms, which as previously mentioned are obtained quarterly and submitted for examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli, and also submitted to the methylene blue and B. coli test, samples of all milk supplied to school children are obtained four times a year. Samples are also obtained from farmers in the course of delivery.

The examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester.

Particulars of the samples obtained during the year are as follows :—

MILK SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR  
EXAMINATION DURING 1938.

## EXAMINATION FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI.

Authority	Type of Sample	No. of Samples	Result	
			Positive	Negative
Lancashire C.C. ...	School Milk ...	29	1	28
Lancashire C.C. ...	Accredited Milk ...	12	2	10
Ramsbottom U.D.C....	Taken in course of delivery ...	34	1	33
Ramsbottom U.D.C....	Taken at Farm ...	1	1	0
		76	5	71

## METHYLENE BLUE AND B. COLI TEST.

Authority	Type of Sample	No. of Samples	Result	
			Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory
Lancashire C.C. ...	Accredited Milk ...	13	2	11

Positive samples in connection with the examination for tubercle bacilli are referred to the Lancashire County Council, who arrange for a veterinary examination of the herd to be made with a view to isolating the affected animal or animals.

With regard to samples found to be unsatisfactory by the Methylene Blue and B. Coli tests, visits are made to the farm, advice given, and further samples taken. A succession of unsatisfactory samples would lead to the license being revoked.

## WATER SUPPLY.

The main source of water supply to the district is by the Irwell Valley Water Board.

Three samples were taken during the year, two for bacteriological examinations and one for chemical, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

A number of houses, however, are supplied by private supplies. Nineteen samples of these waters were obtained during the year, 17 for bacteriological and two for chemical examination, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are six offensive trades in the district, namely: two tripe boilers, two soap works, one gut scraper, and one tallow refinery.

No contraventions of the bye-laws were found during the year.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one common lodging house in the district, situated in Paradise Street. The house has accommodation for 96 persons, the number of beds now occupied, however, rarely exceeds 20.

No contraventions of the bye-laws were found during the year.

## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The extension of the Council's scheme of financial assistance towards the cost of the provision of fresh water closets in lieu of pails and privy middens, to include the conversion of waste water closets, has encouraged a number of owners of these insanitary relics to abolish them.

Waste water closets are by the nature of their construction easily soiled and impossible to keep clean. Their removal therefore is long overdue, and I would urge all owners of them to participate in the Council's scheme for their abolition.

Conversions carried out during the year :—

Privy closets converted to fresh water closets	...	1
Pail closets converted to fresh water closets	...	9
Waste water closets converted to fresh water closets.		27
Houses provided with dust bins in lieu of ashpits	...	5

In addition to the above conversions, two privy middens were abolished during the year.

So far as can be reasonably ascertained, the sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year consisted of :—

Fresh water closets	...	3422
Waste water closets	...	1254
Pail closets	...	266
Privy middens	...	38
Closets attached to middens	...	70
Cesspools	...	21
Dust bins	...	4171
Dry ashpits	...	46

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The collection of refuse is almost entirely carried out by motor vehicles—two S. D. Freighters being engaged. The exceptions are in the Deeply Vale area, where, owing to its isolated situation, the scavenging is let out to a local farmer, and in a small portion of the Turn area, which is impossible of access for motor vehicles. In both these cases horses are used.

Refuse disposal is by controlled tipping. Three tips were in use during the year—(1) Peel Brow, (2) Miller Street, (3) Holcombe Brook.

The nett cost of refuse collection and disposal for the financial year ended 31st March, 1939, was £2092 2s. 2d., made up as follows :—

		£	s.	d.
Refuse collection	...	1713	14	6
Refuse disposal	...	383	16	2
		<hr/>		
		2097	10	8
Destructor—credit	...	5	8	6
		<hr/>		
		£2092	2	2

This is a further slight saving in the gradual reduction of these services recorded during the past seven years. Further reductions cannot, however, be expected, as in addition to the number of houses in the district having increased by 650 since 1932, the cost of collection from the type of house now being erected is more expensive than from the old type of house, where one dust bin served a number of houses.

The respective costs for the past seven years are as follows:—

Year ended 31st March	No. of Houses on Rate Books	Nett Expenditure	Rate Equivalent	Cost per House
1932	4369	£2756	10.2d.	12/7.39d.
1933	4402	£2625	9.6d.	11/11.08d.
1934	4470	£2546	9.2d.	11/4.42d.
1935	4663	£2528	8.7d.	10/10.11d.
1936	4781	£2320	8.0d.	9/8.46d.
1937	4901	£2405	8.1d.	9/9.40d.
1938	4960	£2151	7.2d.	8/8.08d.
1939	5028	£2092	6.9d.	8/3.83d.

The income from the sale of waste paper during the past year amounted to £122 12s. 8d. I desire to thank those members of the general public who co-operated in this scheme, and at the same time appeal to those others who so far have failed to respond. I am confident that if all householders would keep their waste paper, old newspapers, magazines, cardboard, etc., separate from ordinary household refuse, and either place it beside the dust bin on the day of collection, or hand it to the dustman when he calls, the revenue from this source would be £200 per annum, all of which goes towards the reduction of the rate charge for this service. Salvage of other materials such as scrap iron, aluminium, etc., was responsible for an income of £24.

# SUMMARY. MOTOR VEHICLES.

## COLLECTION.

## DISPOSAL.

Month	Leads	Barrels	Ashbins	Privy Middens	Ash- pits	Pail Closets	Cess- pools	Peel Brow Tip	Miller Street Tip	Hol- combe Brook Tip	Excreta Shoots	Total Loads	Total Barrels
January	... 171	14	16516	27	44	1007	3	147	24		14	171	14
February	... 166	17	16901	22	47	983	7	145	21		17	166	17
March	... 204	19	21087	28	45	1203	7	179	25		19	204	19
April	... 166	12	16786	27	43	958	1	34	13	119	12	166	12
May	... 162	16	16339	5	45	954	6	...		162	16	162	16
June	... 201	15	20525	25	44	1144	2	...		201	15	201	15
July	... 168	16	16988	13	42	924	6	...	9	159	16	168	16
August	... 140	10	12839	30	31	679	2	...		140	10	140	10
September	... 190	16	19537	29	57	1001	7	...	7	183	16	190	16
October	... 167	12	16406	27	48	875	2	...		167	12	167	12
November	... 160	16	16978	9	31	877	7	...		160	16	160	16
December	... 188	15	20676	27	58	1062	2	...	162	26	15	188	15
Totals	... 2083	178	211576	269	535	11667	52	...	505	261	1317	2083	178

# HIRED MOTOR VEHICLES.

## COLLECTION.

## DISPOSAL.

Month	Loads	Barrels	Ashbins	Privy Middens	Ash-pits	Pail Closets	Cess-pools	Peel Brow Tip	Miller Street Tip	Hol-combe Brook Tip	Excreta Shoots	Total Loads	Total Barrels
September...	15		1414					...		15		15	
December ...	23		2611		2			...	23			23	
Totals ...	38		4025		2			...	23	15		38	

# HIRED HORSE VEHICLES.

## COLLECTION.

## DISPOSAL.

Month	Loads	Barrels	Ash-bins	Privy Mid-dens	Pail Closets	Ash-pits	Cess-pools	Peel Brow Tip	Miller Street Tip	Hol-combe Brook Tip	Other Tips	Excreta Shoot	Total Loads	Total Barrels
March ...		12				1	9	...			12			12
April ...	1			1		1		...	1				1	
July ...	1	12		1		2	9	...		1	12		1	12
November ...	1	12		1		2	9	...		1	12		1	12
Totals ...	3	36		3		6	27	...	1	2	36		3	36

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and encouragement in the carrying out of my duties, and to my fellow officials for their able assistance.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HERBERT BARLOW,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.









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